GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3596
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2000
CYBER CRIME BY ISI
M. JAGANNATH

Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan ISI hacked vital data of Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta to erase vital data on July 10, 2000`

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the corrective action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN)

(a): The computer system at Indian Statistical Institute, Calcuttawas hacked and the incident was detected at about 9.00 a.m. on July 10,2000. The details of the hackers are not known and so far it has not been possible to ascertain whether the hacking has been done by Pakistan ISI.

(b): The hacking incident affected only the main server and the home page of the Indian Statistical Institute. The serverswhich the Institution uses for computation purposes were not hacked and there were no loss of data and programmes. The system was restored around 1 p.m. on the same day.

(c): Some preventive measures have been taken by the Institute. Faculty members who go abroad/visit other institutions in India are given the permission to access the e-mail server from outside. This practice has since been stopped. For preventing of recurrence of such hacking, suitable security facilities are being installed.